

Order Paper Questions

● (1510)

[English]

CRIMINAL CODE

AMENDMENT TO PROTECT INNOCENT HUMAN LIFE

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-623, to amend the Criminal Code (protection of innocent human life).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Blenkarn: Madam Speaker, this bill would provide that abortion cannot take place unless there is a danger to the life of the mother, and not just the health, and that a person be appointed by provincial authority to hospital therapeutic abortion committees for the sole purpose of being an ombudsman for the unborn child.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

* * *

[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today Nos.: 1,367, 1,514, 1,690, 1,691, 1,719, 1,821, and 1,826.

[Text]

ADMIRAL ROBERT FALLS

Question No. 1,367—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. What is the annual salary, to the nearest dollar, received by Admiral Robert Falls from the Canadian Armed Forces?
2. What is the annual salary, to the nearest dollar, received by Admiral Falls as special adviser to the Prime Minister on defence matters?
3. How many times since his appointment have he and the Prime Minister been in touch with each other, directly or indirectly, on matters of defence?
4. For what reason was it necessary to appoint Admiral Falls as special defence adviser to the Prime Minister rather than making use of one of the senior officials of the Canadian Armed Forces?

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): 1 and 2. \$60,900—\$79,300.

3 and 4. See reply to question No. 1,641 answered December 9, 1980.

COMPUTERS

Question No. 1,514—**Mr. Herbert:**

Does any problem arise within a department or between departments attributable to the use in various geographical regions of computers that are not compatible?

Mr. Peter Stollery (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State and Minister of Communications): In so far as the Department of Communications is concerned, the answer to the above question is as follows: Though there are many actual and potential incompatibilities between computers, particularly when they are of different manufacture and different generations, no problems arise within or between departments that cannot be solved operationally. The major difficulty that does arise occurs when there is a need to transfer or communicate data between computers, and this problem is not confined to government departments or to different geographic regions. The operational solution usually involves standardizing the format of the stored data that would be used by different machines, and then transferring magnetic tapes containing the data between the computers, or obtaining a printed "hard-copy" report and re-entering the data into the other machine. The data transfer could be more efficient. The preferred long-term solution to this data transfer problem is to develop a set of interconnection standards or protocols for electronic communication that will be applicable to all types of networks, computers and terminals. A great deal of work is being done at the international, national, industry and government levels to develop such a solution. In particular studies are under way and solutions being developed by the committees of the International Telecommunications Union and the International Standardization Organization. Canadian manufacturers, telecommunications carriers, government departments and the government electronic data processing standards committee are directly involved in this work. An effective solution to the incompatibility problem, in Canada, will be resolved when solutions are adopted as national standards, and services available to all Canadians are implemented.

"SPECIAL FRIENDS" LETTER

Question No. 1,690—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Did the Secretary of State for External Affairs write a letter dated October 20, 1980, to what he referred to therein as "Special Friends" and, if so (a) was the letter written on the letterhead of the Secretary of State for External Affairs? (b) what is the name and address of each person who received the letter?
2. Did the letter advise recipients in part that the Windsor-Walkerville Federal Liberal Association was to hold a meeting on Saturday, November 1 at 110 Tecumseh Road East to select delegates "for the upcoming convention of the Liberal Party of Canada (Ont.) which will be held on the weekend of November 28, 29 and 30 in Toronto" and, if so (a) under what authority was the letterhead of the Secretary of State for External Affairs used to advise persons of Liberal party meetings (b) was postage paid on the letters and, if not, were they sent postage free by the minister?

Hon. Mark MacGuigan (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The letter described in the question was sent out by the Secretary of State for External Affairs on October 20, 1980, and by error it was sent on departmental letterhead. When the Secretary of State for External Affairs saw and signed the original letter, it was on blank paper with no letterhead. It was subsequently reproduced by accident on departmental letterhead. As the letter itself states it was the first such letter and office procedures have now been established to ensure proper handling procedures for the future.